

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.  
Director

ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.  
Acting Chief Deputy Director

RODERICK SHANER, M.D.  
Medical Director



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GLORIA MOLINA  
YVONNE B. BURKE  
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
DON KNABE  
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

<http://dmh.lacounty.gov>

550 SOUTH VERMONT AVENUE, 3<sup>RD</sup> FLOOR, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90020

Reply To: 213-738-3190  
Fax: 213-736-5802

July 28, 2008

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.  
Director of Mental Health

SUBJECT: **NOTIFICATION OF USE OF DELEGATED AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AMENDMENTS TO REFLECT THE CONTINUATION OF MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT WORKFORCE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008-09**

This is to advise your office that the Department of Mental Health (DMH) has exercised its delegated authority, authorized by your Board on September 18, 2007 (see attached Board letter), to execute an amendment to the Consultant Services Agreements with Mental Health America of Los Angeles (MHALA), Contract #MH050019, and Pacific Clinics, Contract #MH050017, for the continuation of services under the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Workforce Training and Development (WTD) Project for Fiscal Year (FY) 2008-09. For FY 2008-09 the MHALA Agreement will have a Total Contract Amount (TCA) of \$1,135,000 and the Pacific Clinics Agreement will have a TCA of \$558,900, fully funded with MHSA Community Services and Supports (CSS) one-time funds. The Amendments will be effective beginning July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

County Counsel and the Chief Executive Office have approved the Amendments.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please let me know.

MJS:DM:EC

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Officer  
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Contracts Development and Administration Division



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

# County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION  
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1101  
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

**ADOPTED**  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

September 18, 2007

23

SEP 18 2007

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

Dear Supervisors:

**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH: APPROVAL OF  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTANT SERVICES  
AGREEMENTS WITH THE NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION  
AND PACIFIC CLINICS TO IMPLEMENT THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES  
ACT WORKFORCE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECT  
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007-08  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(3 VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Approve and instruct the Director of Mental Health or his designee to prepare, sign, and execute Department of Mental Health (DMH) Consultant Services Agreements (Agreements) with the National Mental Health Association (NMHA) and Pacific Clinics substantially similar to Attachments I and II, for the development and implementation of Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Workforce Training and Development (WTD) Project for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007-08. For FY 2007-08, the NMHA Agreement will have a Total Contract Amount (TCA) of \$946,000 and the Pacific Clinics Agreement will have a TCA of \$465,750, totally funded with MHSA Community Services and Support (CSS) one-time funds. The Agreements will be effective upon Board approval through June 30, 2008.



2. Delegate authority to the Director of Mental Health or his designee to prepare, sign, and execute future amendments to these Agreements and establish as a new TCA the aggregate of the original Agreement and all amendments, provided that: 1) the County's total payments to a contractor under these Agreements for FY 2007-08 shall not exceed an increase of 20 percent from the applicable revised TCA; 2) any such increase shall be used to provide additional services or reflect program and/or policy changes; 3) the Board of Supervisors has appropriated sufficient funds for all changes; 4) approval of County Counsel and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or their designee is obtained prior to any such Amendment; 5) the parties may, by written Amendment, reduce programs or services and revise the applicable TCA; and 6) the Director of Mental Health shall notify the CEO's office after execution of the Amendment.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Consistent with DMH's MHSA CSS plan, Board approval is requested to execute Agreements with NMHA and Pacific Clinics to develop and implement three (3) distinct WTD Project programs – the Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist Training Services program, the College Faculty Immersion Training program, and the DMH Staff Immersion Training program – all designed to enhance the skills of staff in MHSA programs. The Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist Training Services will prepare people with Bachelors or advanced degrees or equivalent certification or experience, including consumers and family members, to work in the field of mental health as psycho-social rehabilitation specialists. The College Faculty Immersion Training will update college and graduate school faculty on the current best practices and requirements for the human services workforce in real-world jobs. The DMH Staff Immersion Training will enhance the recovery knowledge and skills of DMH clinical staff and supervisors who are engaged in the system transformation that focuses on a recovery-oriented system approach and implementation of the CSS Plan.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Goals**

The recommended Board actions are consistent with the principles of the Countywide Strategic Plan's Organizational Goal No. 1, "Service Excellence," Goal No. 3, "Organizational Effectiveness," and Programmatic Goal No. 7, "Health and Mental Health." Board approval will allow for the development and implementation of these three training projects, which will assist in improving and enhancing knowledge and skills of mental health staff to support clients in their efforts to recover from mental illness and reach their full potential in recovery.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

There is no increase in net County cost.

The FY 2007-08 total cost for these projects is \$1,411,750, which is fully funded by MHSA CSS one-time funds and is included in the Department's FY 2007-08 Adopted Budget. Specific allocations by WTD Project programs include \$1,086,750 for Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist training, \$200,000 for College Faculty Immersion training, and \$125,000 for DMH Staff Immersion training (Attachment III).

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The State-approved MHSA CSS Plan focuses on recovery-oriented services for children and transition-age youth (TAY) with serious emotional disturbances (SED) and adults and older adults with severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI). Special emphasis is placed upon provision of services for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, incarcerated or at risk for incarceration, or placed in long-term locked mental health facilities or at risk for such a placement because of their mental illness. The CSS Plan is also focused on adequately and appropriately addressing the unique needs of the diverse ethnic and racial groups in our County.

Each of the planned WTD Project programs will offer specialized lectures as well as interactive learning experiences to help guide staff in using recovery-oriented approaches in their work with clients enrolled in MHSA Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs and other MHSA-funded services. Individuals from all Service Areas will be invited to participate in these projects. Eventually, these training projects may become a significant resource for well-qualified individuals to staff MHSA-funded programs and those programs transforming to serve clients using a recovery approach.

The Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist training program will include the design and delivery of a 15-week training program to prepare individuals with one of the following qualifications: Bachelors degree, advanced degree, equivalent certification, or experience to work in the mental health field. The training will be made available at a local community college and delivered to at least 100 students. Of these students, 25 percent must be consumers or family members, and 50 percent must be from unserved and/or underserved ethnic communities. Contractors will develop and implement the logistical, support and marketing functions required for a successful



training program, including a detailed recruitment plan to meet the desired student population characteristics, identification of appropriate instructors, scheduling of classes and arrangement of facilities, development and use of an appropriate educational and learning theory design for adults, including adults with disabilities, and approved content.

The College Faculty Immersion training program will include a variety of adult learning strategies to explore the concepts and practice requirements for evidence-based practices, promising practices, recovery-oriented services, peer support, cultural sensitivity, and age-appropriate mental health services for all relevant professions. The training will include site visits and clinical/field work with opportunities to assess the impact of the immersion program on curricula, the feasibility of including related subjects in future lesson plans, and the practicality of disseminating the knowledge and curricula throughout the systems in which the participating college faculty teach. The contractor will consult with direct services personnel and administrators to ensure that appropriate promising and evidence-based practices are included in the immersion training, and will prepare the materials necessary to distribute the training among a broad spectrum of health and human services educators in Los Angeles County. The training will be made available at 34 educational institutions, and 120 faculty staff will be trained.

The DMH Staff Immersion training program will focus on helping existing staff in 11 directly-operated programs that are transforming or already have transformed to a recovery-oriented system approach to gain greater skills in new approaches that support a client and family driven system. Eleven staff at each site will be trained for a total of 121 DMH staff trained. Expository and didactic sessions will focus on the concepts and practice requirements for evidence-based practices, promising practices, recovery-orientation, peer support, cultural sensitivity, and appropriate mental health service delivery. Site visits and clinical/field work will promote experiential learning with opportunities to evaluate the impact of the immersion training services on clinical practice, the feasibility of including similar training in all DMH directly-operated and contracted service sites, and the practicality of disseminating the knowledge and methods throughout the service delivery system. Participants will have the chance to practice techniques learned in the classroom or other teaching settings including internships. To ensure relevance of the content, the contractor will consult with direct services personnel and administrators about appropriate promising or evidence-based practices included in the immersion training.



The attached Agreement format has been approved as to form by County Counsel, and the CEO has reviewed the proposed action. Clinical and administrative staff of DMH will administer and supervise the WTD projects, evaluate each project to ensure that quality services are provided, and ensure that Agreement provisions and Department policies are followed.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

DMH invited community-based agencies to pre-qualify prior to applying for MHSA funds by submitting a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) in response to a Request for Statement of Qualifications (RFSQ) open solicitation process. The SOQ process was to ensure that each agency demonstrated a basic level of capability, (e.g., financial viability, proof of liability insurance, registration as a County vendor) and for agencies to identify the types of services, age groups to be served, and geographic locations in which they want to provide services. If current DMH agencies met MHSA requirements, they were added to the Department's MHSA Master Agreement list either automatically through the Legal Entity Agreement or by amendment for other types of contracts; for new agencies DMH executed MHSA Agreements that placed them on the MHSA Master Agreement list. Once placed on the list, agencies were eligible to receive Requests for Services (RFSs) related to their service provision capabilities and interest.

On January 12, 2007, DMH issued RFS No. 9 for WTD Services to 76 qualified bidders on the Master Agreement list that indicated an interest in developing and implementing workforce training on their SOQ. DMH sent agencies that expressed interest a notice of the release of the RFS along with a compact disc of the RFS, and invited them to attend a mandatory Proposers' Conference on February 1, 2007. Representatives from 36 contract agencies attended the Proposers' Conference.

By the deadline of March 5, 2007, DMH received five proposals from three different agencies in response to RFS No. 9. This included three proposals to provide the Rehabilitation Specialist training, one proposal to provide the College Faculty Immersion training, and one proposal to provide the Staff Immersion training. Soon after, DMH convened a review panel of five individuals representing consumers, other County departments, and DMH staff to assess and score the proposals. Simultaneously, review of the budget and reference contacts were conducted by DMH staff. The total scores were subsequently reviewed by DMH's Executive Management Team, which then finalized its recommendations. DMH plans to award funds to NMHA for Rehabilitation Specialist, College Faculty Immersion, and Staff Immersion training. DMH plans to award funds to Pacific Clinics for Rehabilitation Specialist training.

The agency that was not awarded RFS No. 9 funding withdrew its request for a Debriefing; therefore, no appeals are pending.

**IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Board approval of the proposed Agreements and allocations is expected to play a significant role in encouraging transformation of service delivery to a recovery model approach, and raising awareness that staff and educators must have new and different training to support the evolving system. Implementation of the WDT Project in all Service Areas will significantly enhance the availability and quality of integrated, recovery-based services for mental health consumers throughout the County.

**CONCLUSION**

The Department of Mental Health will need one copy of the adopted Board's actions. It is requested that the Executive Officer of the Board notifies the Department of Mental Health's Contracts Development and Administration Division at (213) 738-4684 when this document is available.

Respectfully submitted,



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA  
Chief Executive Officer

WTF:SRH:SAS  
DRJ:DS:bjs

Attachments (3)

c: County Counsel  
Director, Department of Mental Health  
Chief Probation Officer  
Chairperson, Mental Health Commission